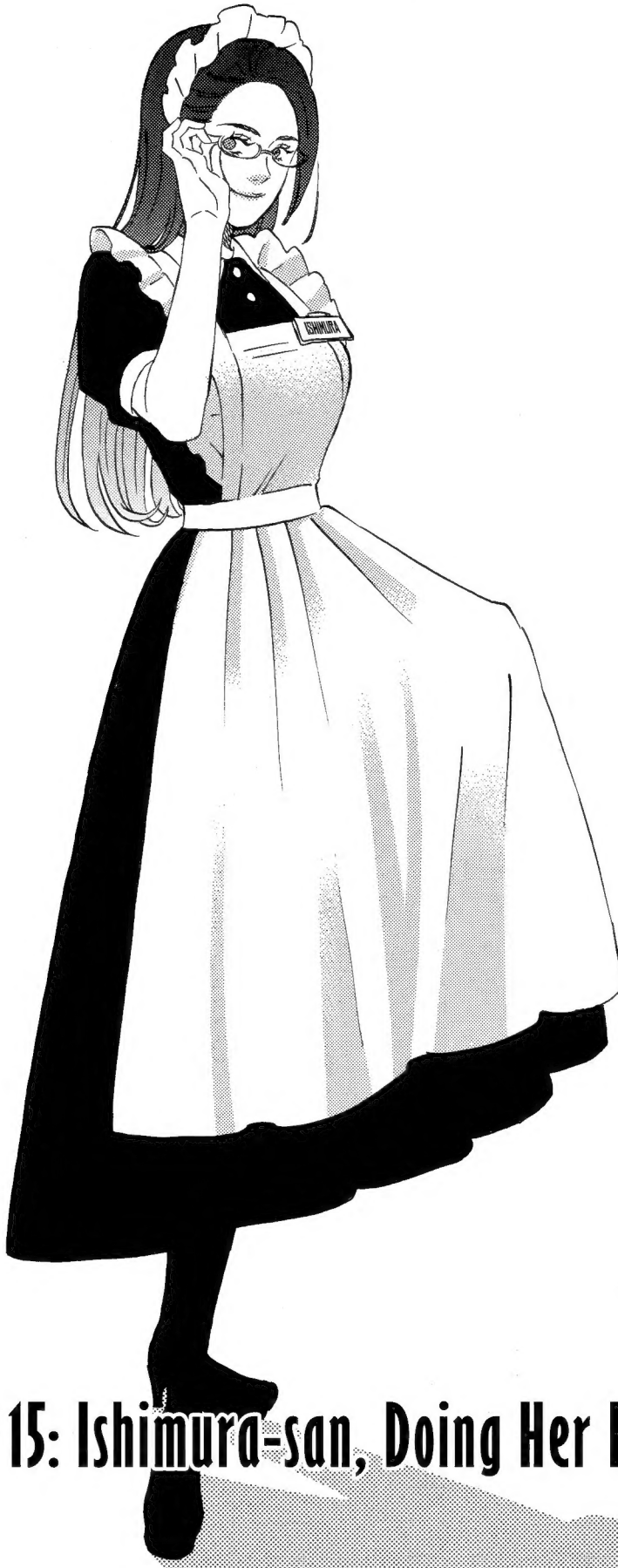


Chapter 15: Ishimura-san, Doing Her Best

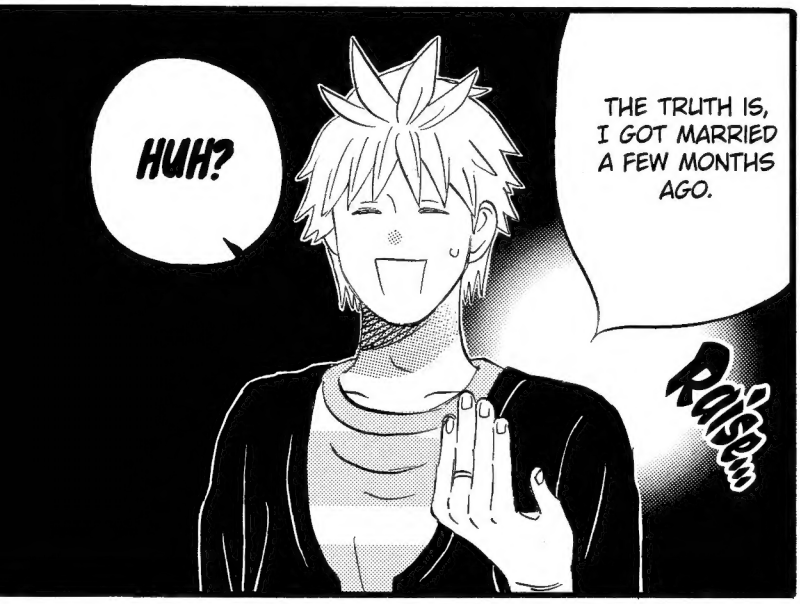
TSUBA ROKU
AHEM...! SO WE'RE HERE TODAY TO CELEBRATE KIRISHIMA GETTING A NEW JOB.

CHEEEERS!
Whooo!

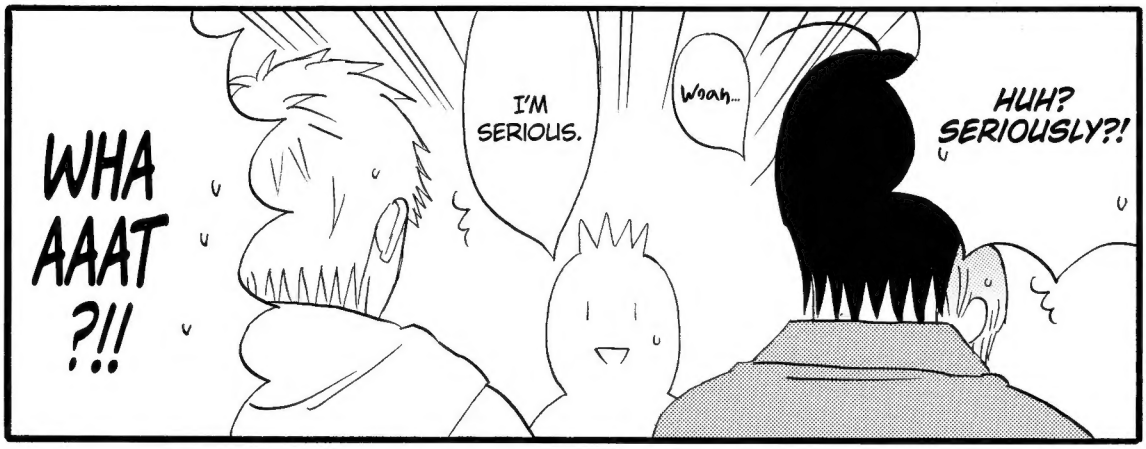
YOU FINALLY DID IT, MAN...!
WHEEW... GOTTA SAY, I'M GLAD!

...
...SO? WHAT'S YOUR NEW JOB LIKE?

I HEARD FROM KIKUCHI THAT YOU WEREN'T REALLY DOING MUCH JOB-HUNTING, SO...
I WAS WORRIED ABOUT YOU.
HEH HEH HEH...
WELL, I HAD A LOT GOING ON...


THE TRUTH IS, I GOT MARRIED A FEW MONTHS AGO.
HUH?
Raise

BEFORE THAT, I... HAVE ONE MORE THING TO REPORT.
Hm? What's up?


HUH? SERIOUSLY?!
Woah...
I'M SERIOUS.
WHA AAAT ?!!

YOU'RE GONNA TELL EVERYONE 'BOUT THE WEIRD SITUATION YA GOT YOURSELF IN?

I MEAN... IT'S NOT THAT WEIRD. I SIMPLY GOT MARRIED AND BECAME A HOUSE-HUSBAND.

HUH?

IN→

WORKING AS A HOUSEHUSBAND ISN'T STRANGE THESE DAYS...

BUT MOST PEOPLE STILL REGARD IT AS SUCH, RIGHT?

IF I'M TOO EMBARRASSED TO TELL MY FRIENDS ABOUT IT, I DON'T THINK I CAN PLAY THE HUSBAND ROLE PROPERLY, EITHER.

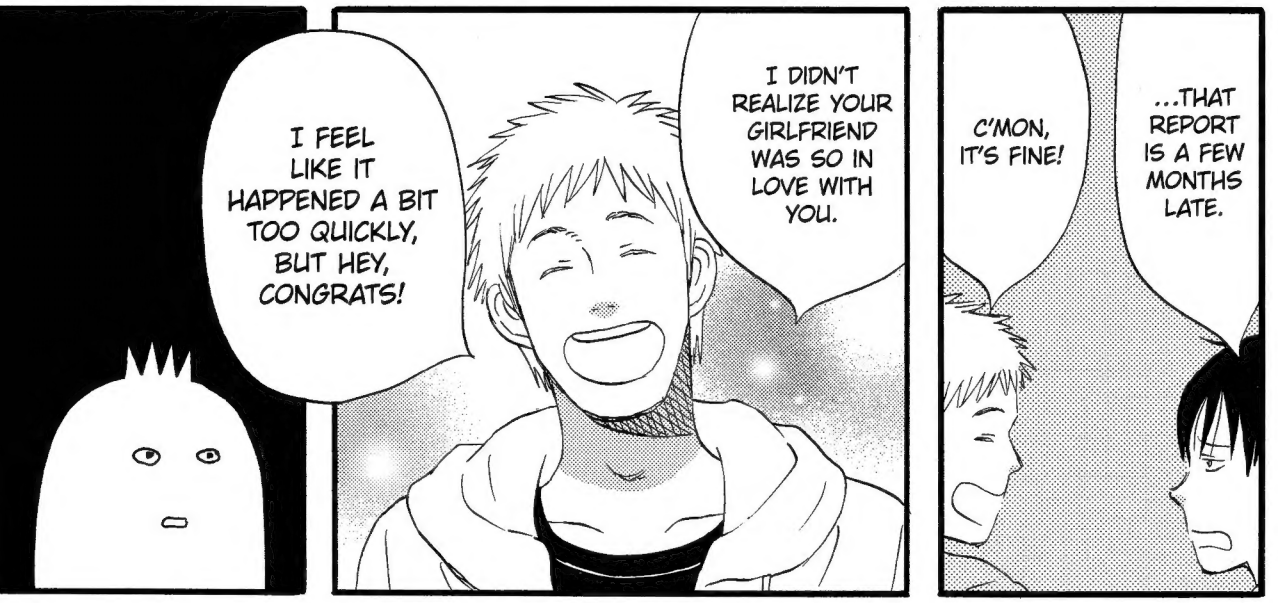
I'M GOING TO TAKE MY WORK AS A HOUSEHUSBAND SERIOUSLY!

I WANT TO STRENGTHEN MY RESOLVE EVEN MORE.

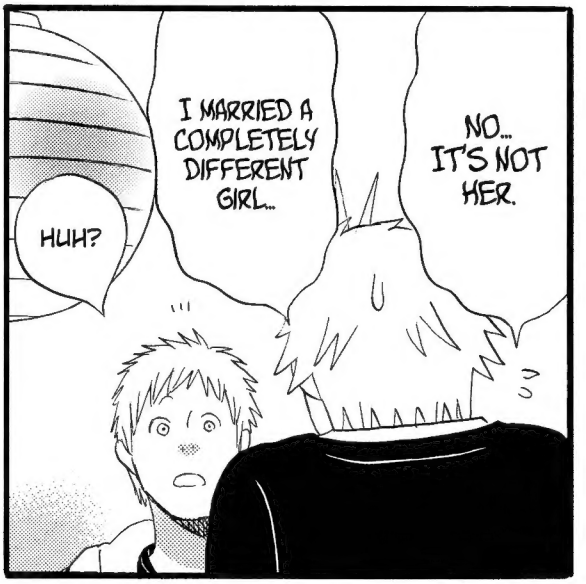
I SEE.

SO THAT'S YOUR WAY OF SHOWIN' THAT YOU'RE SERIOUS 'BOUT YOUR JOB.

WELL, EVERYONE'S NICE. I THINK THEY'LL UNDERSTAND YA JUST FINE.

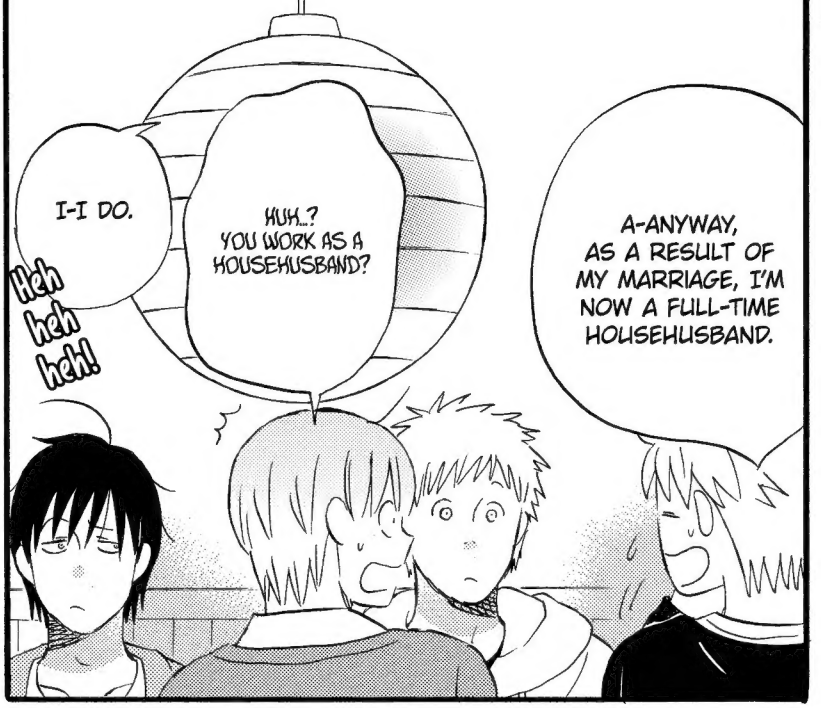

I FEEL LIKE IT HAPPENED A BIT TOO QUICKLY, BUT HEY, CONGRATS!
I DIDN'T REALIZE YOUR GIRLFRIEND WAS SO IN LOVE WITH YOU.
C'MON, IT'S FINE!
...THAT REPORT IS A FEW MONTHS LATE.

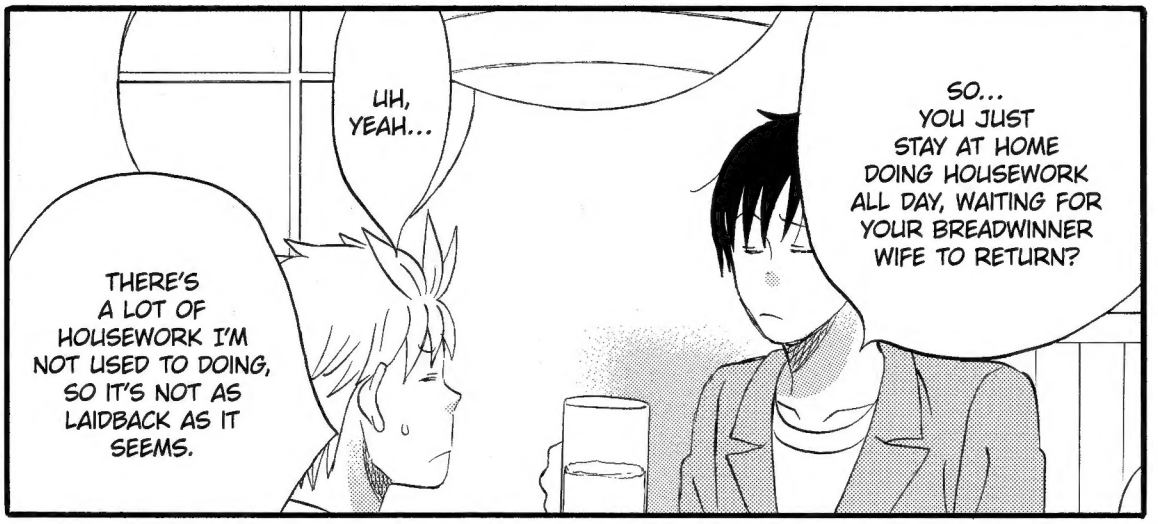
OHH...
MY EX-GIRLFRIEND BROKE UP WITH ME AFTER I TOLD HER I'D BEEN LAID OFF.

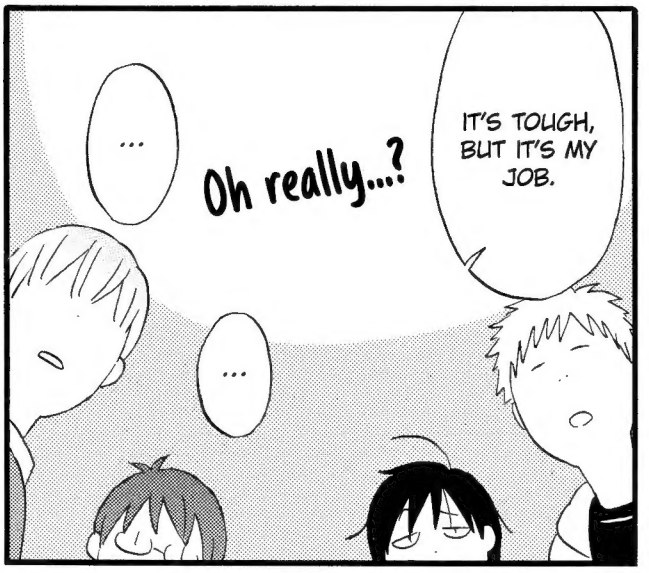

HUH?
I MARRIED A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT GIRL...
NO... IT'S NOT HER.

YOU DON'T LOOK SURPRISED AT ALL.
THAT'S...
SURPRISING ...
WOW...
RIGHT...

...

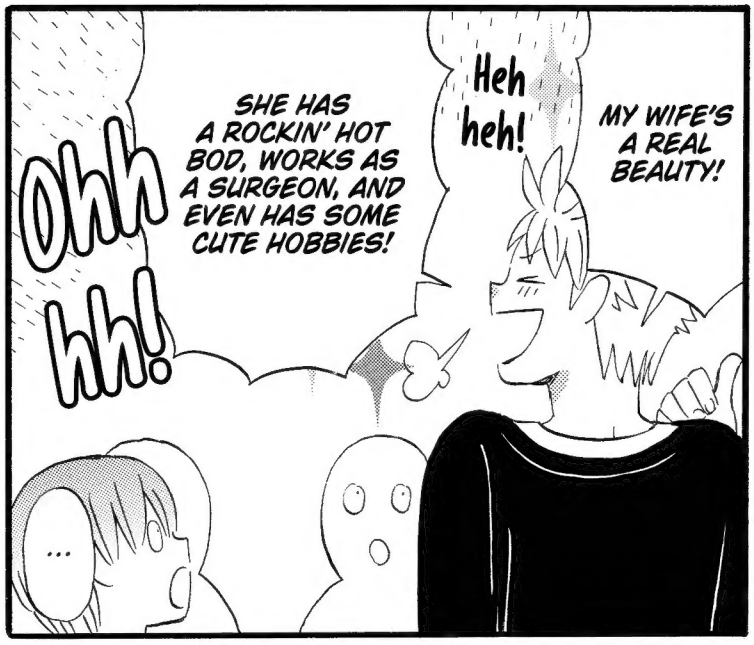

I-I DO.
Heh heh heh!
HUH...? YOU WORK AS A HOUSEHUSBAND?
A-ANYWAY, AS A RESULT OF MY MARRIAGE, I'M NOW A FULL-TIME HOUSEHUSBAND.


UH, YEAH...
SO... YOU JUST STAY AT HOME DOING HOUSEWORK ALL DAY, WAITING FOR YOUR BREADWINNER WIFE TO RETURN?
THERE'S A LOT OF HOUSEWORK I'M NOT USED TO DOING, SO IT'S NOT AS LAIDBACK AS IT SEEMS.


...
Oh really...?
IT'S TOUGH, BUT IT'S MY JOB.
...

...I FIGURED YOU'D SAY THAT, NISAWA...
OH, BOY. HE WENT AND SAID IT!
HOW'S THAT DIFFERENT FROM BEING A LEECH?
DON'T PUT ME ON THE SAME LEVEL AS THOSE GOOD-FOR-NOTHING GUYS!
YOU'RE ASKING ME IF IT'S DIFFERENT FROM BEING A LEECH? WELL, IT SURE IS! I'M MARRIED NOW. I HAVE BIG RESPONSIBILITIES!
IS THAT SO...?
BUT JUST SO YOU KNOW, I'M NOT HALF-ASSING MY HOUSEHUSBAND WORK!
Bam
OH, WOW...
SHE'S OLDER THAN HIM, TOO.
Apparently.
STILL... I DO THINK YOU'RE IN A PRIVILEGED SITUATION.
NOWADAYS, IT'S NORMAL FOR BOTH THE HUSBAND AND THE WIFE TO WORK.
You've been working hard, huh, Kirishima?

NOT ONLY IS THAT EERILY ACCURATE, BUT SOME OF THEM ALSO MAKE YOU SIGN THE MARRIAGE PAPERS ON THE SPOT...
Right?!
THAT MAKES ME THINK OF THOSE GIRLS WHO ARE SO DESPERATE TO MARRY THEY GET MEN DRUNK SO THEY MAKE A MISTAKE AND GET THEM PREGNANT... THEN, THEY FORCE THEM TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY!
Ha ha ha!
SPEAKING OF OLDER WOMEN...


Ohh hh!
SHE HAS A ROCKIN' HOT BOD, WORKS AS A SURGEON, AND EVEN HAS SOME CUTE HOBBIES!
Heh heh!
MY WIFE'S A REAL BEAUTY!
...

...SHE MAY BE OLDER THAN ME, BUT...
Heh!

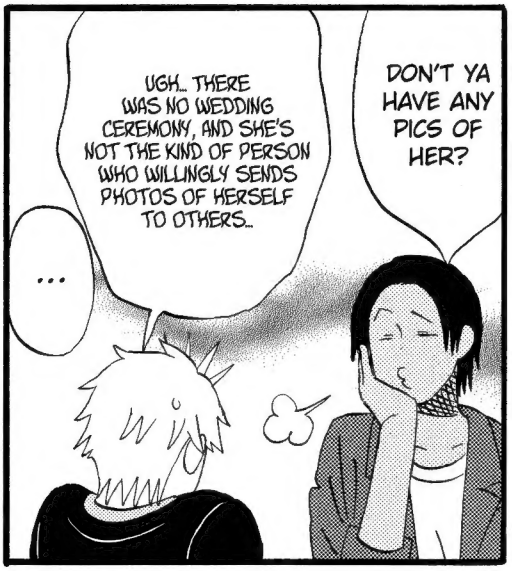
I REALLY DON'T WANT TO ASK YOU THIS, BUT...

?
Ohh...
...

C'MON, KIKUCHI. HELP ME OUT HERE!
HMM... AS MUCH AS I'D LIKE TO HELP YA, I'M NOT SURE WHAT TO TELL THEM.

GASP!
WHY WOULD I PRETEND TO BE MARRIED AND FABRICATE SUCH A SAD STORY?!
YES! SHE'S A REAL PERSON!!
DOES THAT WIFE OF YOURS ACTUALLY EXIS...

ANYWAY ...
I KNOW YOU'RE GOING THROUGH TOUGH TIMES, BUT REMEMBER.


UGH... THERE WAS NO WEDDING CEREMONY, AND SHE'S NOT THE KIND OF PERSON WHO WILLINGLY SENDS PHOTOS OF HERSELF TO OTHERS...
DON'T YA HAVE ANY PICS OF HER?
...

I'VE NEVER MET YOUR WIFE, EITHER.
HUH...?

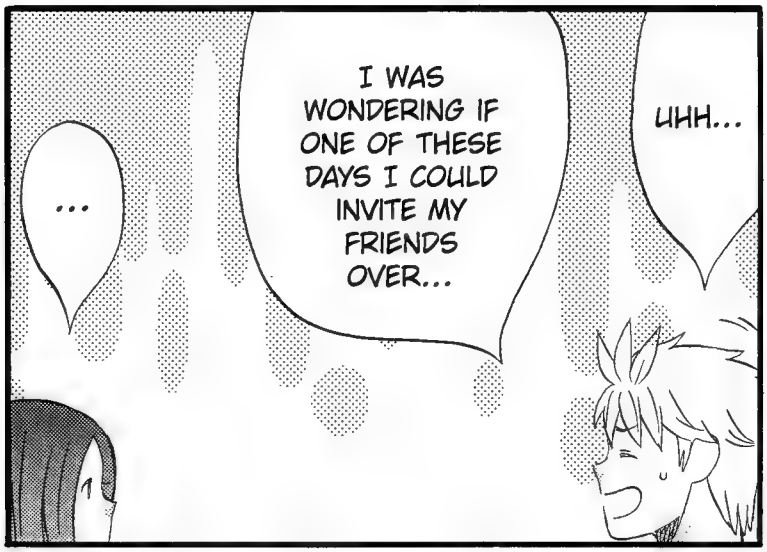
OH, GOSH... WHAT'S THIS? MY FRIENDS DON'T TRUST ME...
WHY DO I FEEL THAT NO ONE HERE BELIEVES A WORD I SAID?
YEAH, YEAH...
Let's just drink, okay?
YOU'RE NOT ALONE...

Arghh!
Sure you will.
JUST YOU WAIT, I'LL CALL YOU SOON!
Ha ha ha!

Clatter
I'LL INTRODUCE YOU TO MY WIFE!
FINE! I'LL JUST HAVE TO INVITE YOU ALL TO OUR HOUSE, THEN!

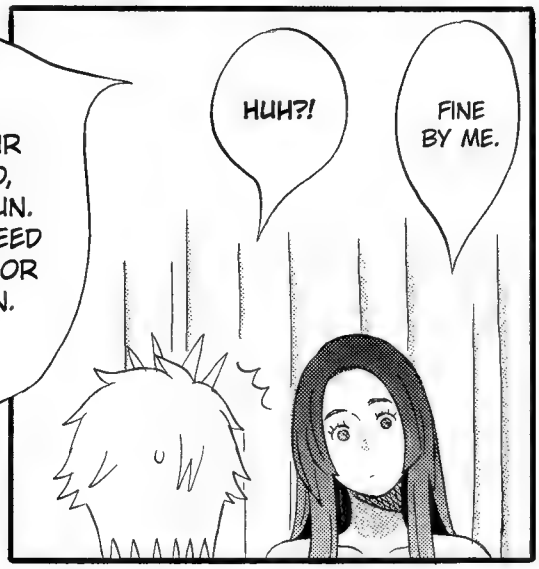
...I TOLD THEM THAT, BUT...

...
THIS IS ISHIMURA-SAN'S HOUSE. CAN I REALLY INVITE MY FRIENDS OVER...?
Slurp...
Chomp
Munch

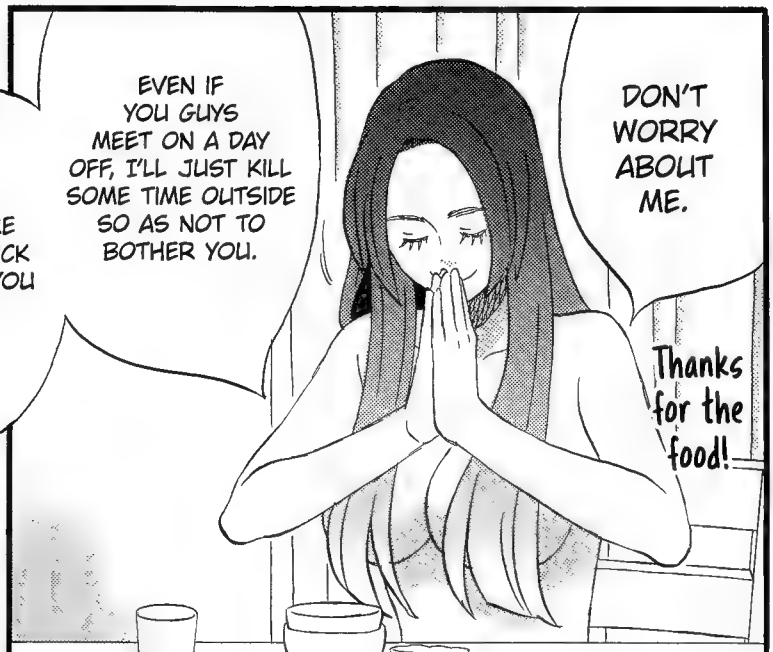

...
I WAS WONDERING IF ONE OF THESE DAYS I COULD INVITE MY FRIENDS OVER...
UHH...

HM? WHAT'S UP?
UM...

WHOA... IT'S GOING A LOT BETTER THAN I ANTICIPATED...
THIS IS YOUR HOUSE TOO, KIRISHIMA-KUN. YOU DON'T NEED TO ASK ME FOR PERMISSION.

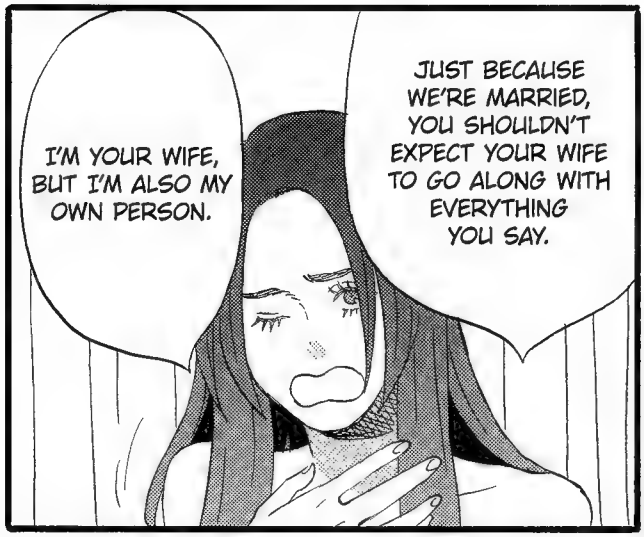

HUH?!
FINE BY ME.

SO YOU'RE FREE TO PICK ANY DATE YOU WANT.


EVEN IF YOU GUYS MEET ON A DAY OFF, I'LL JUST KILL SOME TIME OUTSIDE SO AS NOT TO BOTHER YOU.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME.
Thanks for the food!

NO WAY.
NO, NO, NO! I ASSURE YOU THEY'RE GOOD PEOPLE. PLEASE MEET THEM!
WHY DO I HAVE TO WASTE MY PRECIOUS FREE TIME DOING TROUBLESOME STUFF LIKE THAT?

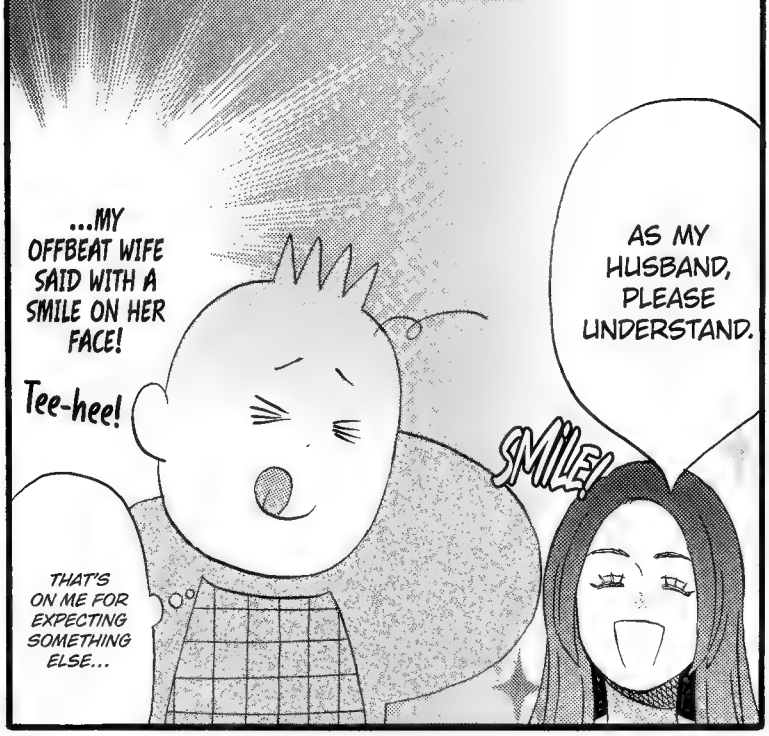
NO, HOLD ON! YOU'RE MY WIFE, SO... MY FRIENDS WANT... TO MEET YOU!
I NEED YOU TO BE HERE AS WELL!
HA HA HA!

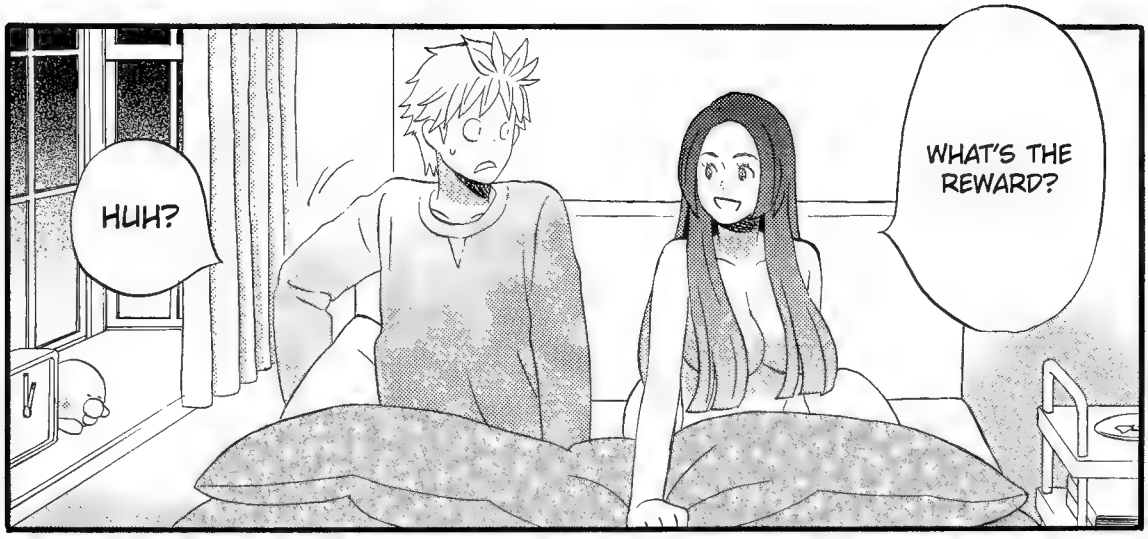

JUST BECAUSE WE'RE MARRIED, YOU SHOULDN'T EXPECT YOUR WIFE TO GO ALONG WITH EVERYTHING YOU SAY.
I'M YOUR WIFE, BUT I'M ALSO MY OWN PERSON.

W-WE'RE MARRIED, SO YOU SHOULD SOCIALIZE WITH YOUR HUSBAND SOMETIMES...
WHAT? WHAT'S THIS ABOUT? DO YOU THINK A MARRIAGE IS SOME SORT OF SLAVE CONTRACT?

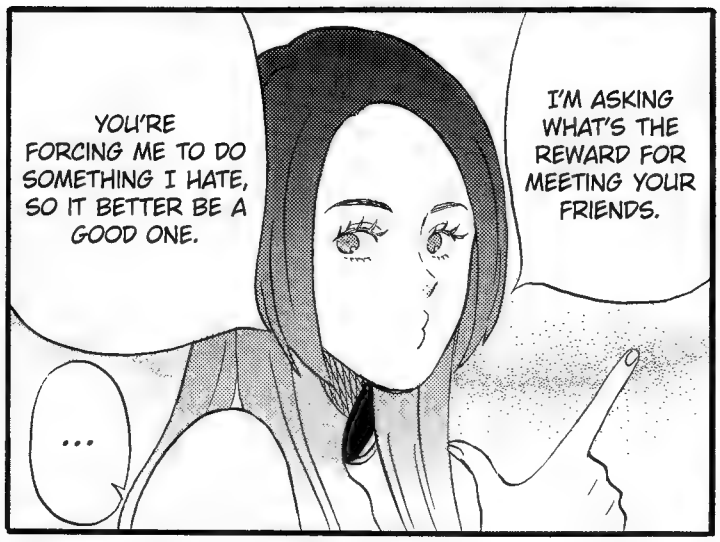
YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT IF YOU FORCE ME TO DO SOMETHING AGAINST MY WILL, THERE'LL DEFINITELY BE A RIFT BETWEEN US.
IF YOU INSIST ON IGNORING MY FEELINGS...
I'LL DO EVERYTHING IN MY POWER TO GET A DIVORCE ON THE GROUNDS OF "EMOTIONAL DISTRESS."

ANYWAY... I WANNA KNOW.

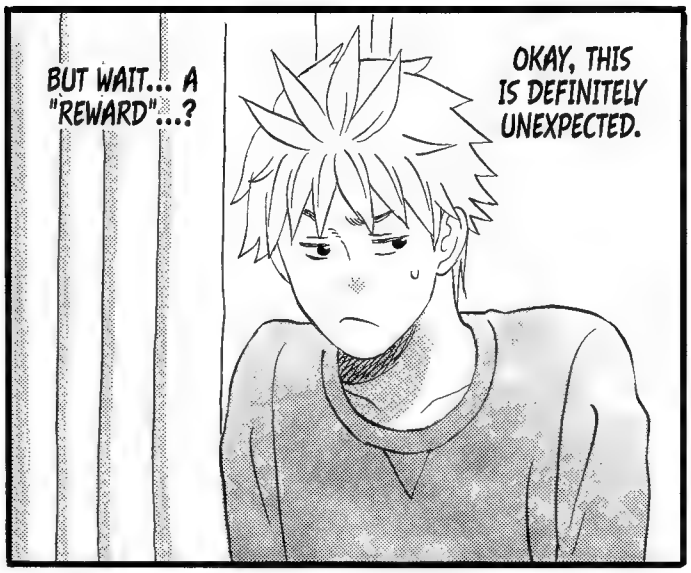

...MY OFFBEAT WIFE SAID WITH A SMILE ON HER FACE!
Tee-hee!
AS MY HUSBAND, PLEASE UNDERSTAND.
SMILE!
THAT'S ON ME FOR EXPECTING SOMETHING ELSE...

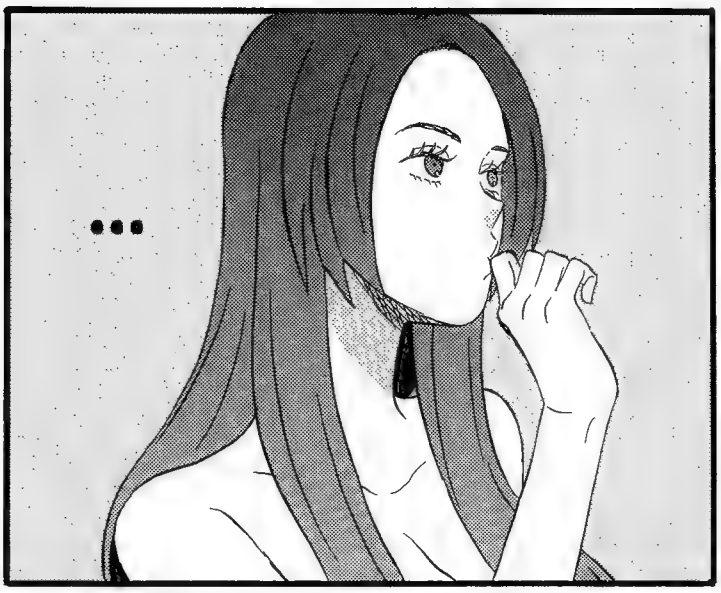

HUH?
WHAT'S THE REWARD?

YOU'LL MEET MY FRIENDS IF I GIVE YOU A REWARD?
THAT'S WHAT I'M SAYING.
...

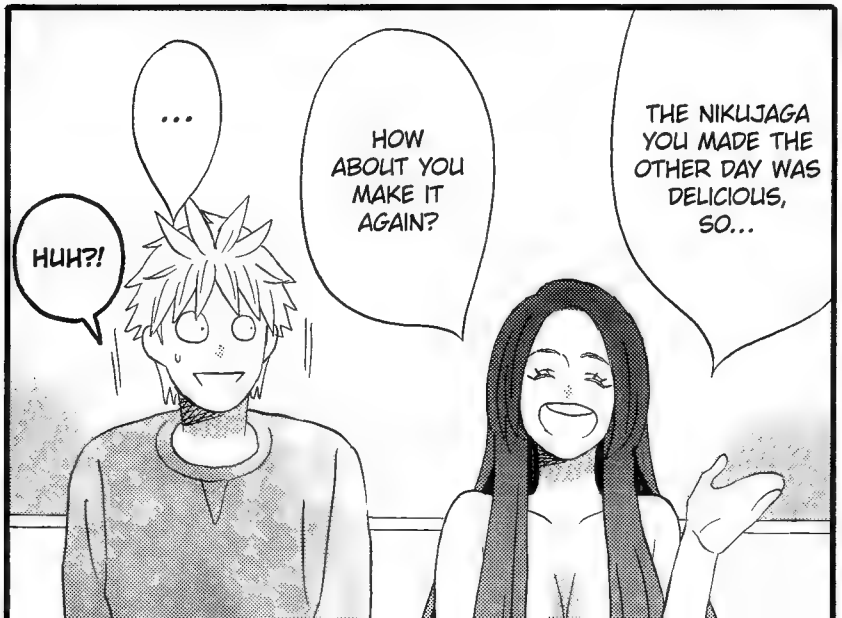

I'M ASKING WHAT'S THE REWARD FOR MEETING YOUR FRIENDS.
YOU'RE FORCING ME TO DO SOMETHING I HATE, SO IT BETTER BE A GOOD ONE.
...

WELL...
WHAT KIND OF REWARD WOULD BE GOOD...?

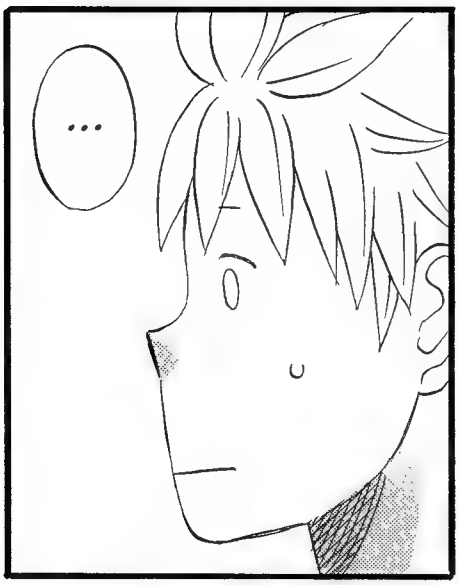

BUT WAIT... A "REWARD"...?
OKAY, THIS IS DEFINITELY UNEXPECTED.

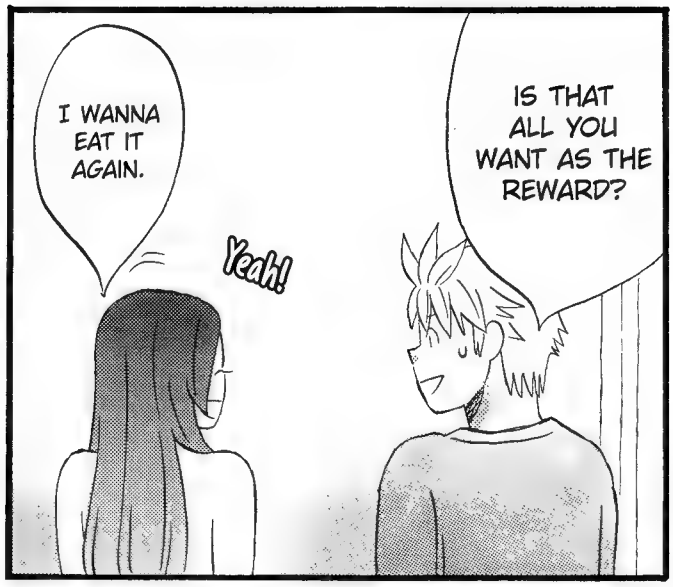

...

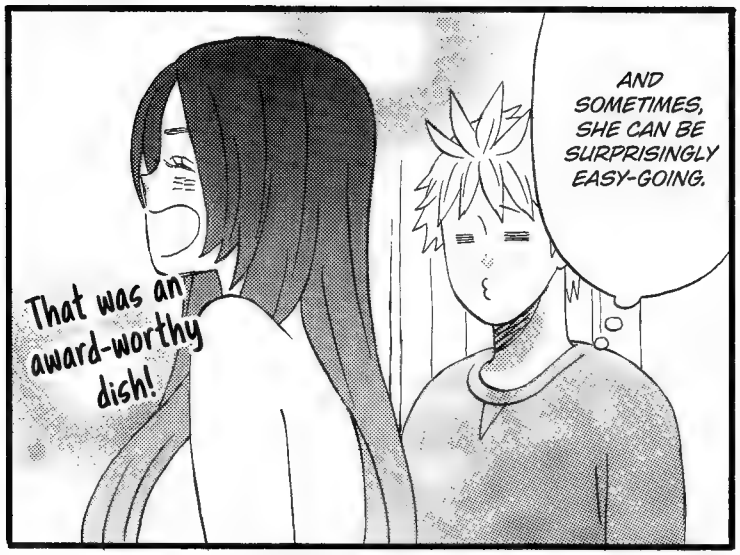
Heh heh...
IF IT'S SOMETHING I CAN DO, JUST ASK FOR IT...
HMM...

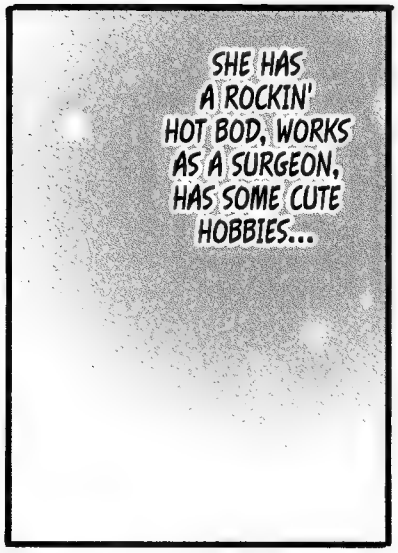

...
HUH?!
HOW ABOUT YOU MAKE IT AGAIN?
THE NIKUJAGA YOU MADE THE OTHER DAY WAS DELICIOUS, SO...

ALL RIGHT!


...

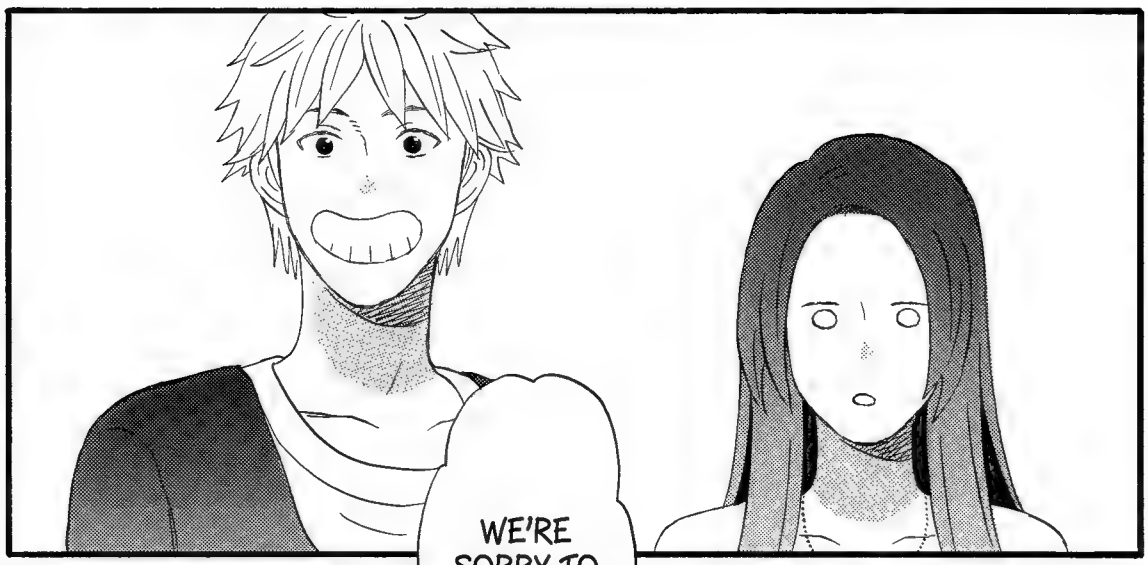

I WANNA EAT IT AGAIN.
Yeah!
IS THAT ALL YOU WANT AS THE REWARD?


That was an award-worthy dish!
AND SOMETIMES, SHE CAN BE SURPRISINGLY EASY-GOING.

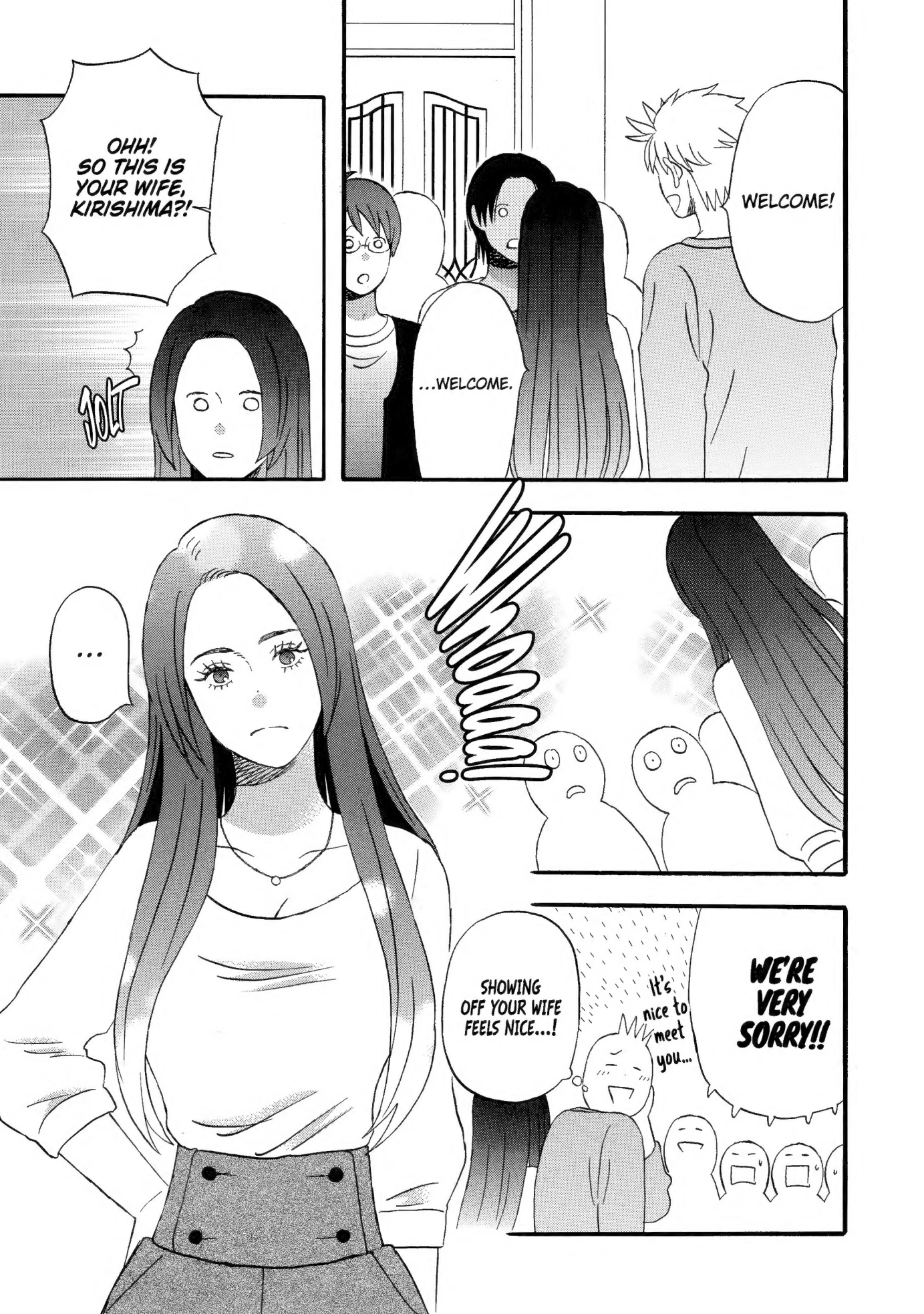

SHE HAS A ROCKIN' HOT BOD, WORKS AS A SURGEON, HAS SOME CUTE HOBBIES...

I LOVE HER!
SHE'S A BIT OF A WEIRDO, BUT RIGHT NOW IT'S NO EXAGGERATION TO SAY THAT SHE'S MY IDEAL WIFE!
GOOD NIGHT!

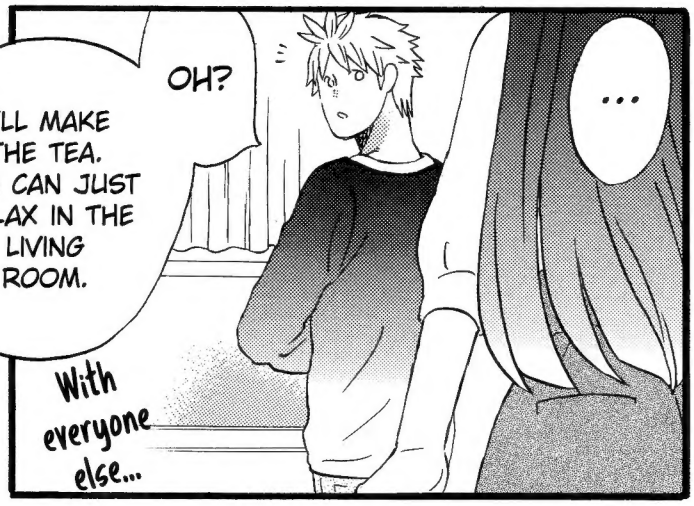
AND SO, ON THE APPOINTED DAY...



WE'RE SORRY TO DISTURB YOU!


OHH! SO THIS IS YOUR WIFE, KIRISHIMA?!
JOLT
WELCOME!
...WELCOME.
...
WHOOOA!
SHOWING OFF YOUR WIFE FEELS NICE...!
It's nice to meet you...
WE'RE VERY SORRY!!

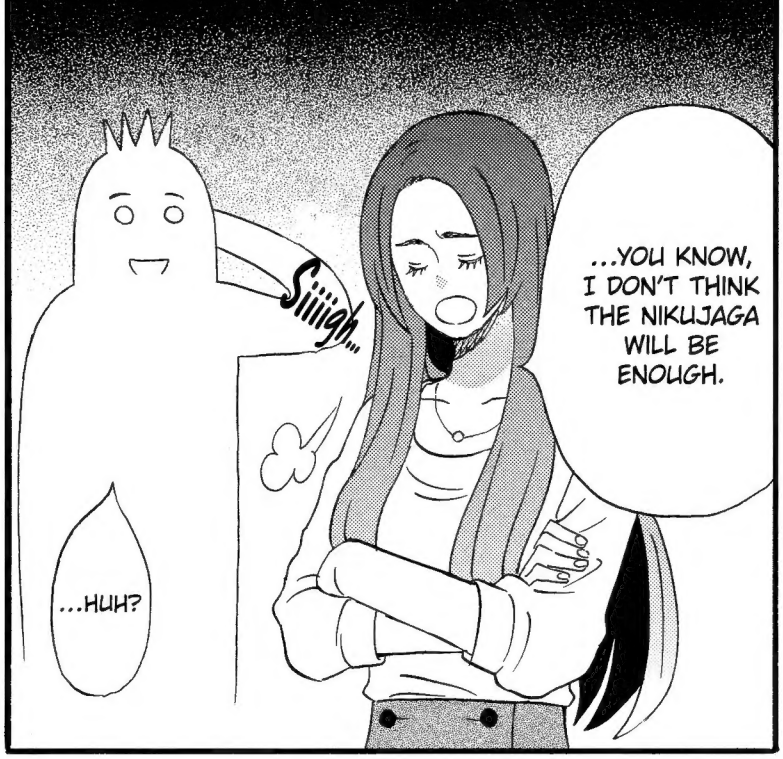
WELL, HAVE A SEAT. I'LL BRING YOU GUYS TEA.
THANKS, MAN!

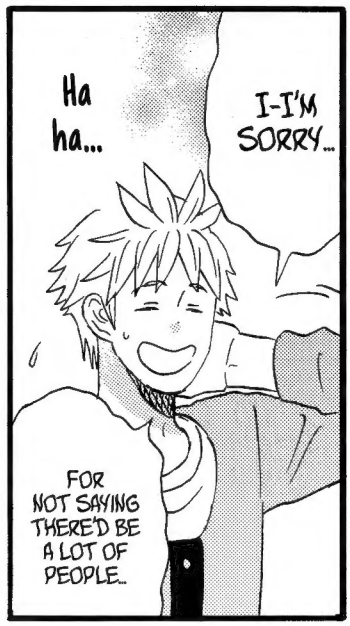

OH?
I'LL MAKE THE TEA. YOU CAN JUST RELAX IN THE LIVING ROOM.
With everyone else...
...

Pull

WHOA!
Reigi
HUH...? WHAT'S WRONG?

YOU DIDN'T TELL ME THERE'D BE MORE THAN TWO PEOPLE COMING!
GLARE
GLARE
HUH?!
Ha ha ha!
RIGHT. I DIDN'T TELL YOU THAT...
...
It looks pretty clean, too...
It's spacious...
A single-family home... Nice...
Wheet wooo...!


...YOU KNOW, I DON'T THINK THE NIKUJAGA WILL BE ENOUGH.
Siiigh...
...HUH?


I-I'M SORRY...
Ha ha...
FOR NOT SAYING THERE'D BE A LOT OF PEOPLE...

ONCE ALL YOUR FRIENDS LEAVE, YOU BETTER BRACE YOURSELF.

WE'RE HAVING A SERIOUS TALK. ONE THAT CONTEMPLATES DIVORCE.
INVITING HIS FRIENDS TO THEIR HOUSE LED TO A WORRYING OUTCOME.
NEXT CHAPTER, WILL KIRISHIMA SHIROU BE ABLE TO AVOID DIVORCE...?!